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PTO/SB/01 (06-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. GMB 0561-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(To be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

|  |   |                        |                    |
|--|---|------------------------|--------------------|
|  |   | Application Number     | 09/993,058         |
|  |   | Filing Date            | 11/16/2001         |
|  |   | First Named Inventor   | Russell S. Kikuchi |
|  |   | Group Art Unit         |                    |
|  |   | Examiner Name          |                    |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 6 | Attorney Docket Number |                    |

### ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers<br>(for an Application)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication<br>to Group                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached   | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board<br>of Appeals and Interferences        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply   | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers   | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group<br>(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final   | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition   | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a<br>Provisional Application                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br>Change of Correspondence<br>Address | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please<br>identify below):            |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/<br>Incomplete Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Remarks  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts<br>under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53          |   |   |

Specification Abstract  
on a separate page

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

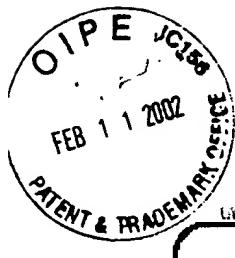
|                               |                    |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Firm<br>or<br>Individual name | Russell S. Kikuchi |  |
| Signature                     |                    |  |
| Date                          | 02/02/2002         |  |

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: 02/11/2002

|                       |                    |      |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------|
| Typed or printed name | Russell S. Kikuchi |      |
| Signature             |                    | Date |
|                       | 02/02/2002         |      |

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PTO/SB/17 (11-01)

Approved for use through 10/30/2002. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# **FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2002**

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT</b> | <b>(S) 65.00</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|

### **Complete If Known**

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number   | 09/993,058         |
| Filing Date          | 11/16/2001         |
| First Named Inventor | Russell S. Kikuchi |
| Examiner Name        |                    |
| Group Art Unit       |                    |
| Attorney Docket No.  |                    |

### **METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**

Check    Credit card    Money Order    Other    None

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|------------------------|--|
| Deposit Account Number |  |
| Deposit Account Name   |  |

The Commissioner is authorized to (check all that apply):

Charge fee(s) indicated below    Credit any overpayments  
 Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application  
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

### **FEES CALCULATION (continued)**

#### **3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

**Large Entity   Small Entity**

| Fee Code (\$)        | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Description  | Fee Paid |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|--|----------|
| 105 130              | 206 66        | 206 66        | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath  | 65.00    |
| 127 56               | 227 26        | 227 26        | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet                     |          |
| 129 130              | 139 130       | 139 130       | Non-English specification  |          |
| 147 2,520            | 147 2,520     | 147 2,520     | Per filing a request for ex parte reexamination                            |          |
| 112 920*             | 112 920*      | 112 920*      | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action                     |          |
| 113 1,840*           | 113 1,840*    | 113 1,840*    | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action                        |          |
| 115 110              | 215 55        | 215 55        | Extension for reply within first month                                     |          |
| 158 460              | 216 200       | 216 200       | Extension for reply within second month                                    |          |
| 147 320              | 217 480       | 217 480       | Extension for reply within third month                                     |          |
| 119 1,440            | 218 720       | 218 720       | Extension for reply within fourth month                                    |          |
| 129 1,980            | 228 990       | 228 990       | Extension for reply within fifth month                                     |          |
| 129 320              | 219 160       | 219 160       | Notice of Appeal   |          |
| 120 320              | 220 160       | 220 160       | Filing a brief in support of an appeal                                     |          |
| 121 280              | 221 140       | 221 140       | Request for oral hearing   |          |
| 129 1,510            | 135 1,510     | 135 1,510     | Petition to institute a public use proceeding                              |          |
| 140 110              | 240 55        | 240 55        | Petition to revive - unavoidable   |          |
| 141 1,280            | 241 640       | 241 640       | Petition to revive - non-technical   |          |
| 142 1,280            | 242 640       | 242 640       | Utility issue fee (reissue)  |          |
| 143 460              | 243 230       | 243 230       | Design issue fee   |          |
| 144 620              | 244 310       | 244 310       | Plant issue fee  |          |
| 122 120              | 122 120       | 122 120       | Petitions to the Commissioner  |          |
| 123 50               | 123 50        | 123 50        | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)  |          |
| 126 180              | 126 180       | 126 180       | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt                                  |          |
| 581 40               | 581 40        | 581 40        | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) |          |
| 146 740              | 246 370       | 246 370       | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))              |          |
| 148 740              | 248 370       | 248 370       | For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(g))           |          |
| 179 740              | 279 370       | 279 370       | Request for Continued Examination (RCE)                                    |          |
| 169 600              | 169 600       | 169 600       | Request for expedited examination or a design application                  |          |
| Other fee (specify): |               |               |  |          |

\*Fee number previously paid, if greater. For Reissues, see above

Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid      SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)

65.00

| SUBMITTED BY   | Completed by       |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Name (Printed) | Russell S. Kikuchi |
| Signature      |                    |

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

| APPLICATION NUMBER | FILING/RECEIPT DATE | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 09/993,058         | 11/16/2001          | Russell S. Kikuchi    |                        |

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 FEB 11 2002  
 UNITED & TRADEMARK REGISTRED

Russell S. Kikuchi  
 94-836A Lelepu Street  
 Waipahu, HI 96797

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CONFIRMATION NO. 8141  
 FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000007180669\*

Date Mailed: 12/11/2001

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

## FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

*Filing Date Granted*

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is missing.  
*A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.*
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(l) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- **The balance due by applicant is \$ 65.**

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Abstract must be on a separate sheet.

02/20/2002 CNGUYEN 00000011 09993058

01 FC:205 65.00 OP

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

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Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



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## ABSTRACT

An improved method for the disengagement of interlocking profile members is enabled by a new grip arrangement. Said process involves the use of one hand, which pinches the closed profile zipper at the center of its longitudinal axis and slides the two opposing members in opposite directions with a "finger-snapping" motion. This breaks the profile seal at both corners of the mouth on the polymeric bag. The embodiment of said process, is a grip arrangement which provides surface friction in both directions along the longitudinal axis of said profile on both outer surfaces of the bag. Three variations in the form of an aerosol coating, a "wet friction" coextruded grip, and a roller embossed grip are disclosed herein. The "finger-snapping" action prescribed by the present invention pushes the profile apart from its longitudinal center, as opposed to prior art, which prescribes pulling it apart from a lateral edge. Consequently, prior art concerns regarding "variance in forces" are eliminated and closure strength is maximized. What results is a reclosable polymeric bag which can be opened with one hand, while possessing maximum strength from without.